

**KNARESBOROUGH**  
**URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.**



**MEDICAL OFFICER'S**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**

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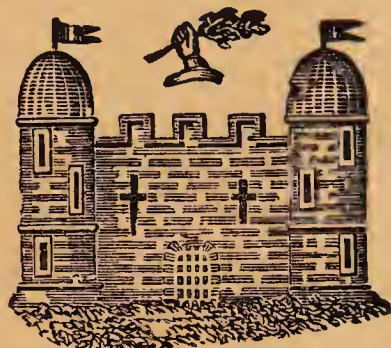
FOR THE  
**Year ending December 31st,**  
**1894.**

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**KNARESBOROUGH:**  
**A. W. LOWE, PRINTER, BOOKSELLER, AND STATIONER, HIGH STREET.**  
1895.



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# KNARESBOROUGH Urban District Council.

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## MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ending December 31st, 1894.

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GENTLEMEN,

In compliance with the regulations of the Local Government Board, I now lay before you a report for the year 1894, in which I shall endeavour to show the Incidence of Disease, the General Health of the Town, and the Sanitary Work accomplished during the past twelve months.

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### PART I.—Relating to Births, Sickness, and Deaths.

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#### **Births.**

The total number of Births registered during the year is 132, as against 138 in 1893. This gives a birth-rate per 1,000 per annum of 28·3. Of these 132, 60 were males and 72 females. Three of these births occurred in the Workhouse.

Of the total births, nine were illegitimate—four males and five females.

#### **Deaths.**

The Deaths registered during the year, including those in the Workhouse, number 106, being a decrease of 31 from those of last year. Of these 106 deaths, 15 occurred in the Work-



house, and leaving them out of consideration the death-rate per 1,000 of the population per annum is 19·5, as against 22·8 for 1893, or a decrease of 3·3 upon last year.

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TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATHS FOR THE BOROUGH.

	EXCLUDING WORKHOUSE.	INCLUDING WORKHOUSE.	
1894.....	91.....	106	<b>Total Deaths for 3 years compared.</b>
1893.....	106.....	137	
1892.....	95.....	113	

*Rate per Thousand of the Population:—*

1894.....	19·5.....	22·8	<b>Percentage for 3 years compared.</b>
1893.....	22·8.....	29·4	
1892.....	20·6.....	24·3	

From the above tables you will see that the death-rate for 1894 is the lowest for three years.

I now proceed to consider the ages at which death occurred, also the causes, and for that purpose present three tables. No. I. shows the number of deaths at different ages. No. II. shows the deaths due to preventable causes, such as infectious diseases; and, as you will see, we have cause to congratulate ourselves upon the very small number of such. No. III. shows the deaths from non-preventable causes. The two last tables contain a comparison with 1893 and 1892.

TABLE I.

The ages at which death occurred:—

Deaths under 1 year .....	19
„ over 1 year and under 5 years...	9
„ „ 5 years „ 15 „ ...	4
„ „ 15 „ „ 25 „ ...	3
„ „ 25 „ „ 65 „ ...	36
„ „ 65 years and upwards .....	35
Total .....	<u>106</u>

Nineteen, or 14·3 per cent. of the total births, died under the age of one year of age.

TABLE II.

Deaths due to zymotic or infectious diseases, or to insanitary conditions:—

	1894.	1893.	1892.
Small-pox .....	0 ...	2 ...	0
Scarlatina .....	0 ...	0 ...	0
Diphtheria .....	1 ...	0 ...	0
Membranous Croup .....	1 ...	0 ...	0
Whooping Cough .....	2 ...	2 ...	0
Typhus Fever .....	0 ...	0 ...	0
Enteric Fever.....	0 ...	0 ...	0
Measles .....	1 ...	0 ...	0
Diarrhœa.....	1 ...	9 ...	0
Erysipelas .....	0 ...	0 ...	0
Influenza.....	0 ...	0 ...	0

TABLE III.

Showing deaths from non-preventable causes:—

	1894.	1893.	1892.
Phthisis .....	10 ...	16 ...	6
Pneumonia & Bronchitis	14 ...	22 ...	19
Heart Disease .....	12 ...	8 ...	10
Diseases of Kidneys .....	2 ...	0 ...	0
„ „ Liver .....	2 ...	0 ...	2
Senile Decay.....	11 ...	0 ...	17
Diseases of Brain and Nervous System.....	14 ...	57 ...	51
Other Diseases .....	31 ...	0 ...	0
Injuries .....	2 ...	2 ...	0

Table III. shows a decrease upon last year in the number of deaths from lung disease.



## PART II.—An Account of Sanitary Work done.

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The following is a short account of the Sanitary accomplishments during the year:—

Printed Notices for the abatement of Nuisances issued...	16
Verbal Notices issued .....	7
New Water Closets .....	23
,, Privies .....	5
,, Ashpits .....	4
,, Drains .....	27
Sink Pipes cut off and trapped .....	2
Urinals for Common Lodging Houses .....	2
Do. put into sanitary condition .....	1
W.C's. put into sanitary condition.....	2
Ashpits do. do. ....	3
Tons of Night-soil removed .....	997

Considerable progress has been made with the second part of the new scheme of sewerage.

The town has been regularly inspected by the Sanitary Inspector and myself, and any insanitary conditions have been reported to you from time to time.

**Town  
Inspection.**

The weekly public market has been regularly inspected, and no fault found with the articles exposed for sale.

**Market  
Inspection.**

These have been regularly inspected by the Sanitary Inspector, and he has had no complaints to make.

**Slaughter  
Houses.**

These have been regularly inspected by the Sanitary Inspector, and from time to time by myself. No cases of infectious disease have occurred among the occupants.

**Common  
Lodging  
Houses.**

No actions have been taken against unlicensed keepers of such.

The Ashpits have been regularly and systematically disinfected by means of a mixture of Quicklime and Carbolic Acid.

**Ashpit  
disinfection**

### PART III.—General Health of the District.

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The general Health of the District, during the year 1894, has been very good.

Reference to the tables given above show that we have the smallest death rate of the last three years; while reference to the table of Infectious Diseases shows that, while in 1893 there were 13 deaths from Infectious Diseases, including 2 from Smallpox; in 1894 there were only 6 deaths ascribed to Infectious Diseases, and none from Smallpox; indeed, no case of this last disease occurred at all.

During the earlier months of the year Measles was fairly prevalent, and throughout most of the year there have been a good many cases of Whooping Cough. But all the other and more serious infectious disorders have been conspicuous by their absence.

One case of Diphtheria and one case of Membranous Croup, so closely allied to Diphtheria, occurred, and in each case disinfection of the houses, clothing, bedding, &c., was carefully carried out by the Sanitary Inspector, with a happy result that no further cases arose.



## PART IV.—Improvements recommended.

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In this connection there is an improvement, Gentlemen, which I would strongly recommend to your attention, and that is, the providing of one public slaughter house in the place of many private ones.

**Public  
Slaughter  
House.**

The advantages of such an arrangement are:—

1. The thorough inspection of all meat killed for human consumption, by the Medical Officer and a Veterinary Surgeon appointed for the purpose.

This is a matter receiving every day more and more attention all over the country. Science has shown how important a force in the spread of that bane of the English race, Consumption, the use of tuberculous meat is.

This is only one, but the chief danger to the health of the community, against which the public inspection would guard.

2. The confining to one spot, and that preferably outside the town, of what must always be more or less of a nuisance, and a source of danger to the public health, as shown by the necessity for your Inspector regularly visiting the private slaughter houses now existing.

3. That no objections on the score of expense need be entertained, as in other communities the public slaughter house has been found a source of profit to the authorities, and a saving of expense to the butchers in the long run.

Appended to this Report are tables supplied by the Local Government Board and County Council, to both of which bodies copies of this Report will be forwarded.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

IAN D. MACKAY, B.A., M.B., C.M.,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

To

THE KNARESBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

